

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/787,458

Applicant(s)

LOHREY ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Steven L. Weinstein

1761

-- **Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the interview of 11/26/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 31-41, renumbered claims 1-11, respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

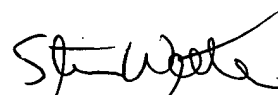
7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u> </u> |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. <u> </u> | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |


STEVE WEINSTEIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER's AMENDMENT

In a telephone conversation with Ms. Bongiovi, on 11/26/03, the following changes were agreed upon to put this application in condition for allowance.

Claims 20-30 have been cancelled and new claims 31-41 have been added as follows:

31. A method for producing an infusion bag, the method comprising:
forming a suspension unit of a sheet-like carrier material such that said suspension unit includes a grasping area disposed at a first end of said unit;
forming independent of one another at least two chambers of a filter material such that said chambers include a top side and are capable of containing an infusible substance,
filling independent of one another said at least two chambers with the substance; and
connecting simultaneously each of said at least two chambers at their top sides to said suspension unit such that said at least two chambers are connected to opposite sides of said suspension unit at a common edge of said suspension unit and at an end of said suspension unit opposite said first end, so that said suspension unit is lying between said at least two chambers and so that upon grasping said grasping area, said at least two chambers fall away from said grasping area and one another and unfold down around the connecting, common edge, hanging freely with space between said at least two chambers,
wherein said suspension unit is formed to be longer than said chambers.

32. A method for producing an infusion bag, the method comprising:
forming a suspension unit of a sheet-like carrier material such that said suspension unit includes a grasping area disposed at a first end of said unit;
forming successively at least two chambers of a filter material such that said chambers include a top side and are capable of containing an infusible substance,
filling successively said at least two chambers with the substance;
connecting a first of said at least two chambers at a first top side to said suspension unit;

connecting a second of said at least two chambers at a second top side to said suspension unit and to said first top side to form a common edge of said at least two chambers; and wherein said suspension unit is formed to be longer than said at least two chambers, wherein said at least two chambers are connected to opposite sides of said suspension unit at a common edge of said suspension unit and at an end of said suspension unit opposite said first end, so that said suspension unit is lying between said at least two chambers and so that upon grasping said grasping area, said at least two chambers fall away from said grasping area and one another and unfold down around the connecting, common edge, hanging freely with space between said at least two chambers.

33. An infusion bag for preparing tea, comprising:

two chambers formed of a filter material for containing an amount of an infusible substance, said chambers being produced and filled with a substance independently of one another, said chambers each having a top side and being connected at respective top sides to form a common edge; and

a suspension unit made of sheet like carrier material, said suspension unit having a grasping area disposed at a first end of said suspension unit,

wherein said chambers are connected to opposite sides of said suspension unit at said common edge and at an end of said suspension unit opposite said first end, so that the suspension unit is lying between said chambers and wherein the suspension unit is longer than said chambers, and said chambers are connected to said suspension unit such that they are adapted to fall away from said grasping area and one another and unfold down around the connecting, common edge when said grasping area is grasped, so that said chambers hang freely with space between said chambers.

34. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein said suspension unit is provided with punch holes which form a rectangular area and/or a T-shaped notch, so that said chambers being turned away from said grasping area when a hanger area is folded out from the suspension unit and arranged on a spout or lid of a pot.

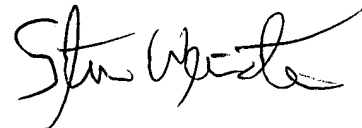
35. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein each of the chambers is made out of tubular sheets.

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36. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein each of the chambers is made out of a sheet-like filter paper material by welding.
37. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein each of the chambers is made out of sheet-like filter paper material by heat-sealing of side edges.
38. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein the chambers are filled with different amounts of the substance.
39. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein the substance comprises tea.
40. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein the substance comprises aromatic substances.
41. The infusion bag according to Claim 33, wherein said chambers each having a bottom side, said bottom sides are releasably connected to each other.

The title has been changed to read:

-- Multi-Chambered Infusion Bag, Especially For Tea --



STEVE WEINSTEIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

11/28/03